

ARIZONA Planning Bulletin



Agua Fria National Monument &
Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plans

Bureau of Land Management • Phoenix Field Office

February 2003, Vol. 2

Scoping Meetings a Success

The 10 scoping meetings held during September and October 2002 were successful and energizing. Over 560 people attended the scoping meetings and over 3,000 total comments were received—about 1,300 for the Agua Fria National Monument plan and about 1,700 for the Bradshaw-Harquahala area plan.

All comments gathered during the scoping process were read, evaluated, and manually entered into an analytic database. Comments received were assigned, based on content, to one of 12 designated issue categories, and were further divided into various sub-issues within each category. All issues will be addressed and considered by BLM in an equal manner throughout the planning process, with no preference or emphasis placed upon the number of comments assigned to any particular issue.

For more details, please see the Scoping Report Executive Summary insert in this bulletin. To read the full Scoping Report, visit the BLM planning website at www.az.blm.gov or pick up a copy at the BLM Phoenix Field Office (PFO) Public Room. (See “How You Can Stay Informed & Involved” on the last page for the address, phone number, and directions to the Public Room.)

Coming Up ... Alternatives Development Workshops

BLM PFO is continuing the resource management planning process underway for the Agua Fria National Monument and the Bradshaw-Harquahala areas. Now that citizens have provided their scoping comments, it is time for them to participate in the next step required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): the formulation of alternatives. The purpose of the March and April work-



shops is to continue involving citizens in the process by beginning development of alternatives for the plans.

Two workshops are planned during March and April at each of five locations shown in the table on the following page. The first set of workshops will provide the opportunity for citizens 1) to discuss their visions for BLM lands that consider and incorporate social, economic, and natural resource issues; 2) to orient participants to the data collected by the specialists so far; and 3) to begin exploring alternative ways to manage BLM lands and resources.

During the month following the first set of workshops and prior to the second, citizen groups will continue working to hone their ideas into management strategies and to prepare alternatives or portions of alternatives as input to the alternative development process.

The second round of workshops will provide citizens the opportunity to become familiar with ideas that were presented during the first workshop at other locations, as well as to provide any additional comments that result from intervening community discussions and work.

In May, presentations are being planned for Phoenix, Prescott, and Wickenburg, where BLM will present the range of alternatives that citizens helped to craft. These alternatives will later be analyzed in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by NEPA.

Using a Collaborative Planning Approach

The American 4-H Council calls collaboration “shared decision-making.” The BLM Planning Handbook defines collaboration as “a cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands.” It might be enough to say that collaborative planning is “people working together to do what’s best for the land and communities.”

This most recent collaborative effort involving the PFO began with two courses delivered by the BLM National Training Center, presented to local BLM staff and community participants. These courses were specifically designed to foster collaborative approaches and help contribute to direct, collaborative action on the ground.

During the last two years, BLM PFO has been engaged in developing broader methods of citizen contact through the use of a collaborative planning approach. This has increased its understanding of the issues and concerns regarding public lands within the planning area. To support a strong collaborative planning effort, BLM PFO retained the services of James Kent Associates (JKA) to conduct community fieldwork and to train local BLM staff to prepare for the land use planning process to come. JKA joined BLM in conducting fieldwork in November 2000, the results of which are summarized in two reports entitled *Summary Report of Community Fieldwork for Southern Bradshaw Planning and Bradshaw Foothills, Agua Fria National Monument, and Harquahala Mountain Planning Effort: Issues, Management Concerns, and Management Partnership Opportunities by Community Resource Units (CRUs)*. (Both reports are available on BLM’s planning website at www.az.blm.gov.)

By utilizing a collaborative approach, BLM PFO has found that citizens throughout the planning area are interested in participating in the planning process and hold many issues in common. The collaboration envisioned for the entire planning effort holds the hope of producing a comprehensive planning document that is meaningful to both BLM and the citizens who live near or use the public lands.



Para una edición en español de este boletín, por favor llame a BLM al teléfono 623-580-5500.

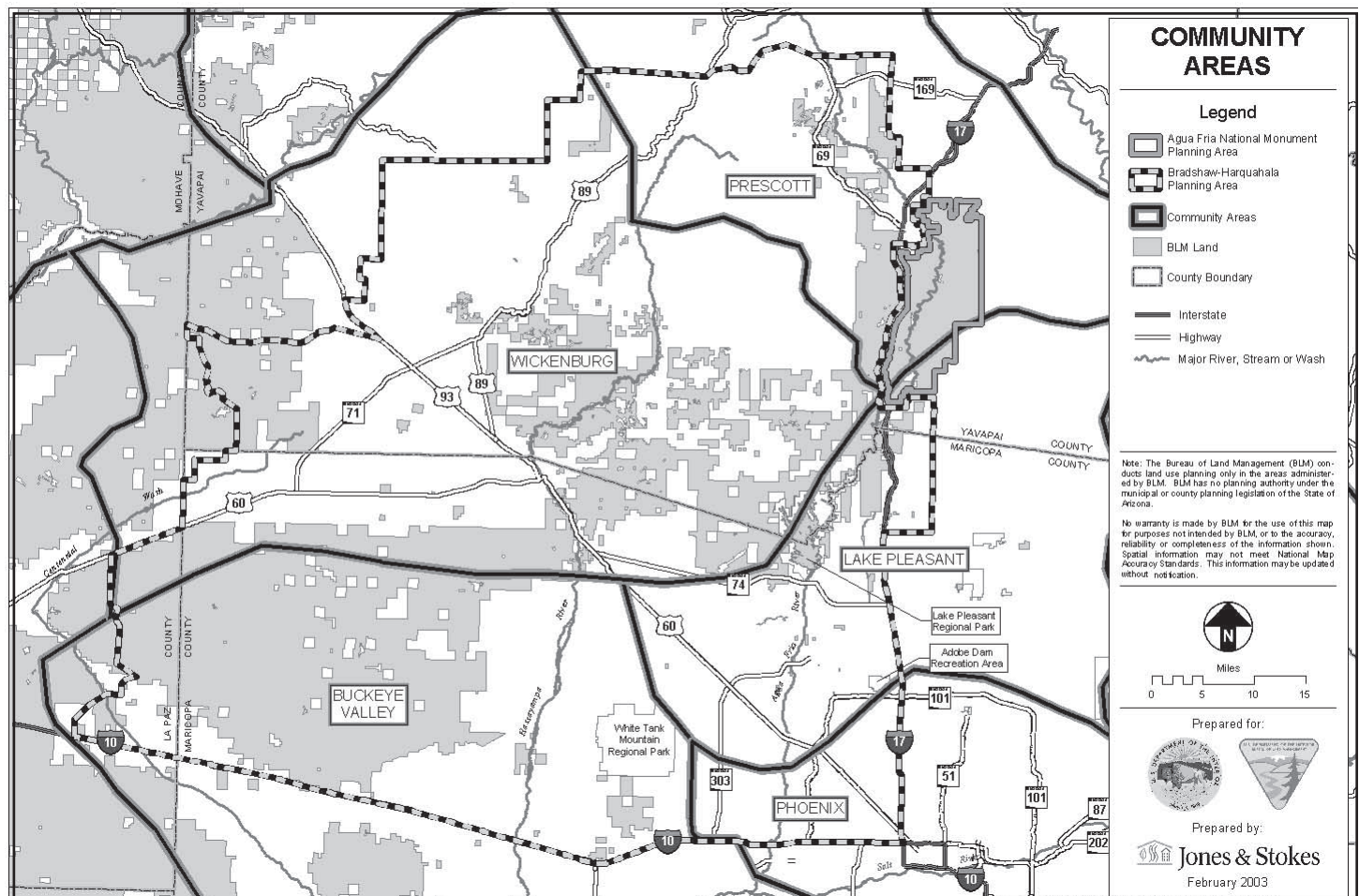
For a Spanish language version of this bulletin, please contact BLM at 623-580-5500.

	Workshop I	Workshop II
Wickenburg Wickenburg Community Center 120 North Valentine Street	Monday, March 3 6–9 p.m.	Monday, March 31 6–9 p.m.
Black Canyon City Black Canyon Community Center/ Albins Civic Center 19055 South K-Mine Road	Wednesday, March 5 6–9 p.m.	Wednesday, April 2 6–9 p.m.
Phoenix Deer Valley Community Center 2001 West Wahalla Lane, Phoenix (1 block south of Beardsley Road, just south of Loop 101 and 19 th Avenue)	Thursday, March 6 6–9 p.m.	Thursday, April 3 6–9 p.m.
Dewey-Humboldt-Spring Valley Bradshaw Mountain Middle School Library 12255 Turquoise Circle, Dewey	Saturday, March 8 10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Saturday, April 5 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Prescott-Prescott Valley-Chino Valley Sharlot Hall Museum Granite Creek Center 115 South McCormick (across street from museum)	Saturday, March 22 10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Saturday, April 12 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Planning Area Community Units

The collaborative planning approach BLM has been using has allowed development of smaller planning units that relate to the local sense of community but seldom correspond to more formal boundaries such as county, city, or other jurisdictional boundaries. This way of viewing the planning area facilitates citizen participation at a scale that is appropriate for individuals and informal groups.

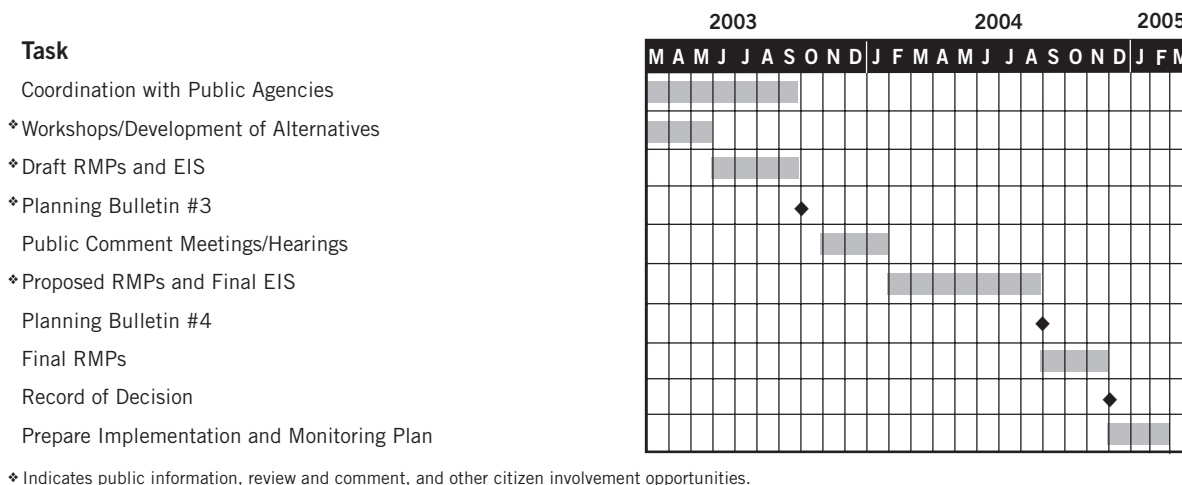
This map shows an important level of social scale: the Human Resource Unit (HRU). HRUs are derived from seven Cultural Descriptors: settlement patterns, publics, networks, work routines, support services, recreational activities, and geographic features. HRUs are characterized by frequent and customary interaction among people. They reveal face-to-face human society within which people have personal knowledge of each other and well-developed caretaking systems sustained through informal network relationships. People's daily activities occur primarily within the HRU, including work, school, shopping, social activities, and recreation. Health, education, welfare, and other public service activities are highly organized at this level, usually with a town or community as its focal point.



Project Schedule (In progress)

The planning process began in January 2002, and is expected to take about three years. Upcoming key steps are listed below:

Schedule for Agua Fria National Monument and Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and Combined Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)



How You Can Stay Informed & Involved

1) Visit the BLM Planning Website

A complete copy of the Scoping Report for the Agua Fria National Monument and Bradshaw-Harquahala planning areas is now available on the BLM PFO's planning website at www.az.blm.gov.

The Social and Economic Assessment is also available on the website, as well as scoping comment reports that were provided during the scoping process. The reports are posted to encourage the exchange of information, issues, and ideas.

In an effort to help you understand and participate in the planning process, other documents, maps, and workshop/meeting schedules will also be posted as they become available. Why not bookmark the site and check it regularly?

2) Visit the BLM's Phoenix Field Office Public Room

For those who wish to review the reports but do not have Internet access, copies are available in the PFO's Public Room, located at 21605 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027. You may visit the Public Room anytime between 7:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m., Monday–Friday, or call 623/580-5500.

3) Participate in Community-Based Planning Work

Several communities have organized workgroups or committees to participate in the planning process. Below are names and contact information of those who are willing to help guide you to a contact in or near your community.

- Randy Goodfriend, Black Canyon City, rgoody13@aol.com
- Rich Glinski, Wickenburg, rich@landoptions.com

You may also contact Chris Horyza, BLM's Planning Coordinator, at 623/ 580-5500.

4) Plan to Attend the Alternative Development Workshops

Look for the workshop schedule inside this bulletin and plan to attend and participate in or near your community.

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEE PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PERMIT NO. G--76